(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) The pros and cons of ERC's recommendations and their implementation are under consideration of the Government.

Closing of DD News Channel

832. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to close down DD News Channel;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether DD News Channel is facing financial crunch or losing money on large scale; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) As a part of Doordarshan restructing. Prasar Bharti has, in principle, taken a decision to close down DD News and Current Affairs Channel due to its high cost and low visibility. The Board also decided that DD National Channel, which has the highest reach, will carry more programmes on news and current affairs to fulfil the mandate of public service broadcasting more effectively.

Charging of huge amount from cable operators by TV Broadcasting Companies

833. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of TV broadcasting companies have started charging huge amount from the cable operators in the country as becoming pay channels;

(b) if so, whether they have got any permission from Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) There are no provisions in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act. 1995 to regulate either subscription